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A Publication of Communication Channels, Inc.

OCTOBER 1985

AMERICAN CITY & COUNTY

administration · engineering · operations

Parks & Recreation: Accidents and Liability

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Profile of Anchorage Mayor Tony Knowles

Trends for Economic Development

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October 1985 Vol. 100, No. 10

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About the Cover
Liability lawsuits as a result of accidents are becoming a major threat to parks and recreation services and to the dedicated professionals who provide that support. Improving safety in parks and recreation services is the topic of this month's cover story on page 36. (Photograph by Bryant McAfee of Atlanta.)

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MUNICIPAL COST INDEXES

The **Municipal Cost Index** fell 0.1 percent for the month to 337.1, marking the first decline in seven months. At the same time, the **Construction Cost Index** dipped by 0.3 percent, and the **Producer Price Index** decreased by 0.2 percent, though both show gains for the year.

On the plus side, the **Consumer Price Index** rose by 0.2 percent to 322.8. Glass, glass containers, HVAC controls, residual fuel, switchgear and cable wire are the commodities in this month's marketbasket that reported the biggest increases, while diesel fuel, fuel oil no. 2, lubricants and lumber displayed the largest decreases. □

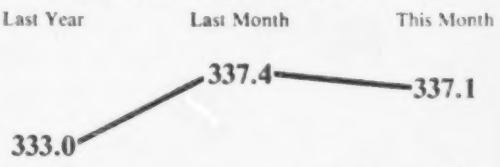
Compiled by Terri Stone

THIS MONTH'S MARKETBASKET

	Current Index	Percent Change From: Last Month	Last Year
Air Conditioners	147.4	−0.1	1.9
Apparel	182.9	0.1	1.7
Asphalt Roofing	411.5	0	4.3
Books	132.3	−0.4	4.2
Chemicals, Industrial	336.9	0	−2.5
Coal	546.7	−0.1	−0.3
Concrete Products	321.1	0.1	3.4
Construction Machinery	362.3	0.1	1.1
Diesel Fuel	686.9	−4.7	−13.2
Electric Components	197.5	−0.7	1.6
Electric Lamps	344.1	0	3.9
Electric Power	462.5	0.4	2.0
Engines, I.C.	347.2	−0.1	2.3
Fans, Blowers	209.7	0.1	2.5
Fertilizers, Mixed	258.5	0	−3.5
Floor Coverings	191.2	0.4	−0.8
Flow Instruments	99.3	−0.8	N/A
Footwear	297.2	−0.1	2.8
Foundry Products	363.5	0.2	0.3
Fuel Oil No. 2	689.3	−5.8	−17.0
Furniture	308.6	0.5	3.5
Gasoline	588.4	−0.3	2.9
Generator Sets	351.8	−0.1	3.3
Glass	222.8	0.7	−1.5
Glass Containers	378.4	1.1	3.3
Gypsum Products	338.6	0.1	−5.9
Hardware	305.2	0.1	2.7
Heating Equipment	260.5	0.3	2.1
HVAC Controls	127.4	2.6	4.2
LP Gas	520.7	−0.3	−13.6
Lubricants	368.3	−1.4	−0.2
Lumber	354.9	−2.6	N/A
Metal Fabrications	314.6	−0.1	0.9
Millwork	314	0.5	2.3
Motor Vehicle Parts	354.7	0.1	0.4
Mowers	261.7	0.1	1.6
Natural Gas	1382.2	−0.7	−3.7
Office Machines	154.9	−0.1	0.8
Paint	278.5	0.2	1.6
Paper	304	−0.2	−1.2
Passenger Cars	238.8	−0.1	3.5
Plumbing Fixtures	313.1	0	3.4
Plywood	237.6	0.1	0.2
Portland Cement	362.2	−0.4	2.5
Residual Fuel	900.2	0.7	−21.6
Sand, Gravel	309.8	−0.2	4.4
Sanitary Papers	376.7	0.1	2.6
Soaps, Detergents	273.6	0	3.2
Sporting Goods	282.8	0	−1.0
Steel Mill Products	366.1	−0.2	−0.4
Struc. Clay Products	295.8	0	3.3
Switchgear	277.8	0.6	−0.4
Tires, Tubes	238.4	0.3	−2.1
Transformers	231.1	−0.6	0.9
Trucks	333.3	0	0.7
Valves	184.9	0	2.7
Wire, Cable	264	0.6	1.2
Wiring Devices	260.9	−0.2	1.4

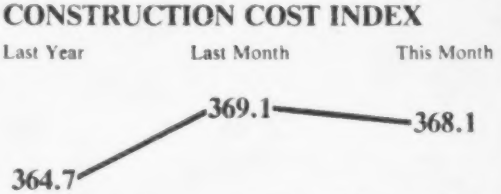
At-A-Glance Changes

MUNICIPAL COST INDEX



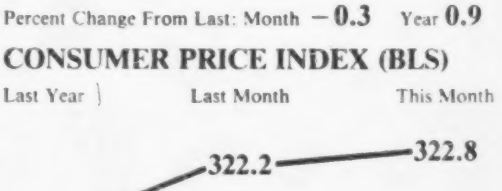
Percent Change From Last: Month −0.1 Year 1.2

CONSTRUCTION COST INDEX



Percent Change From Last: Month −0.3 Year 0.9

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BLS)



Percent Change From Last: Month 0.2 Year 3.6

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX (BLS)

Percent Change From Last: Month −0.2 Year −1.0

QUARTERLY MUNICIPAL TRENDS

	Current Level	Percent Change From: Last Qtr.	Last Year
Receipts	545.6B	1.1	7.1
Federal Grants	95.1B	−2.0	5.0
Durable Purchases	14.7B	1.4	5.8
Consumables	38.2B	1.9	7.6
Services	375.6B	2.1	8.4
Structures	44.1B	−3.5	6.5
Salaries, Wages	273.3B	2.6	7.8
Surplus	53.7B	−3.4	−0.4
Employment	13.348M	0.4	1.6